



East Mississippi Business Development Corporation

Support Growth  
Connect People  
Build Leaders

East Mississippi Business  
Development Corporation  
Bill Hannah, President/CEO  
200 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Meridian, MS 39301

April 11, 2022

Representative Michael Guest  
418 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Guest,

We understand the Army Aviation Support Facility #3 (AASF 3) in Meridian, MS is critical to providing maintenance and repairs on the CH-47 helicopters for the Mississippi National Guard. These helicopters not only provide a key warfighting capability for our military, but also provide significant domestic natural disaster response for our state and others. In order to keep these strategic assets available for missions at a moment's notice, a modern, fully equipped maintenance area is required.

The AASF 3 is a vital asset to our community and is a strategic asset for our nation supporting our local economy and national defense. Currently, the AASF 3 does not have adequate space for our world-class mechanics to conduct routine maintenance on the CH-47s. Because of the limited space, the AASF 3 mechanics are required to conduct time consuming rotation of helicopters in order to perform these maintenance operations. An expansion of maintenance space is urgently needed.

The East Mississippi Business Development Corporation (EMBDC) is the Chamber of Commerce / Economic Development Organization for Lauderdale County, MS. The EMBDC FULLY SUPPORTS this request for the addition of maintenance space to the AASF 3 facility.

Respectfully,

Bill Hannah  
President/CEO

C: EMBDC Board of Directors



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Connect People  
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East Mississippi Business Development Corporation

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REV. 09/2021



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[www.meridianairport.com](http://www.meridianairport.com)  
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April 8, 2022

Representative Michael Guest  
418 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Guest,

I am writing to ask for your support for construction of additional maintenance space for the Army Aviation Support Facility #3 (AASF 3) at Key Field in Meridian.

As you know, the AASF 3 provides maintenance and repairs on the CH-47 helicopters for the Mississippi National Guard. These helicopters not only provide a key warfighting capability for our military, but also provide significant domestic natural disaster response for our state and others. To keep these strategic assets available for missions at a moment's notice, a modern, fully equipped maintenance area is required.

The current facility was built thirty years ago for another type of helicopter with different requirements and does not adequately provide for the CH-47 maintenance. Because of the limited space, the AASF 3 mechanics are required to conduct time consuming rotation of helicopters in and out of the hangar for maintenance. In addition, weather concerns indicate these aircraft need to be indoors as much as possible to protect them from inclement weather.

The AASF 3 is a vital asset to our community and is a strategic asset for our nation supporting our local economy and national defense. An expansion of maintenance space is urgently needed.

The Meridian Airport Authority fully supports the addition of maintenance space to the AASF 3 facility.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Williams", is written over a horizontal line.

Tom Williams  
President







Alliance For Growth  
Bill Hannah, President  
200 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Meridian, MS 39301

April 11, 2022

Representative Michael Guest  
418 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Guest,

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The Alliance For Growth (AFG) is Lauderdale County's "Committee of 100" for Economic Development. The ALLIANCE FOR GROWTH FULLY SUPPORTS this request for the addition of maintenance space to the AASF 3 facility.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bill Hannah".

Bill Hannah  
President

C: AFG Board of Directors



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